

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Board of Directors and Officers

OF THE

HOUSE OF REFUGE AND CORRECTION

OF THE

CITY OF TOLEDO.

For the Year Ending December 31st,

1877.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

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| M. D. CARRINGTON, | Term expires May 16, 1878. |
| A. G. CLARK, | Term expires May 16, 1882. |
| J. M. HAUSER, | Term expires May 16, 1881. |
| C. A. KIRKLEY, | Term expires May 16, 1880. |
| A. H. NEWCOMB, | Term expires May 16, 1879. |

Officers of Board for Year 1878.

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|--------------------|------------------------|
| A. G. CLARK, | <i>President.</i> |
| F. B. SHOEMAKER, | <i>Treasurer.</i> |
| N. A. MARSII, | <i>Secretary.</i> |
| DR. J. M. WADDICK, | <i>Superintendent.</i> |

House of Refuge and Correction.

The House of Refuge and Correction, of Toledo, Ohio, is beautifully situated upon a high and commanding plateau on the northerly bank of the Maumee river, about one mile above the City of Toledo. The grounds upon which the buildings are erected, are about forty feet above the level of the river. The river at this point is about half a mile wide, and its banks, which are rugged and romantic, furnish the finest marine views in Northern Ohio.

The main building is of substantial character, the foundations of stone, and the superstructure of brick. It is four stories high, including the basement, all of which is above ground. It has been constructed at great cost, and with a view to the comfort, convenience, and general welfare of all its inmates. Its halls are wide, its ceilings high, its school-rooms, dining-rooms, working-rooms, play-rooms, hospital, and dormitories are all spacious and well ventilated. The building is heated by steam, and hot and cold water is furnished in abundance. An artesian well, eighty feet deep, furnishes pure water for culinary and drinking purposes. The House is designed to accommodate about two hundred inmates, besides officers and employes.

The grounds, furnished by the City, contain fifty-two acres of land, a part of which, being broken by beautiful ravines and covered by forest trees, is in its native state, the remainder being divided into orchard, field, garden, and lawn, is devoted to the uses of the House of Refuge and Correction. The whole furnishes a most beautiful, attractive, and comfortable refuge for wayward and homeless boys.

Stone walls, cells, and bars are not required to retain its inmates. Kind and considerate treatment furnish the chief barriers against escapes.

The school and library furnish occupation for the mind, while the field, the garden, work shops, and play grounds furnish abundant means for recreation and physical development.

In the erection and equipment of this Institution, the City of Toledo has furnished another proof of the high estimate her citizens place upon the benefits to society and the State, to be derived from the careful restraint and correct development of the wayward, homeless, and outcast youth of the land.

Report of Board of Directors.

TOLEDO, *May 1st*, 1878.

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Toledo :

In presenting to you their Report of the management of the House of Refuge and Correction, for the year ending December 31st, 1877, the Board of Directors deem it but justice to themselves to say that the delay attending its completion has arisen from circumstances wholly beyond their control.

The expenses of the year, for all purposes, amount to \$20,725.17, detailed statements of which appear in the accompanying exhibits.

Since the eighth day of April, 1876, inmates from the State at large have been committed to our Institution ; and for all such, provision was, at that time, made by the General Assembly, whereby we have received, until February 1st, 1878, three dollars and fifty cents each per week for all inmates, except those committed from our own City.

The price, from February 1st, 1878, has been reduced to two dollars and fifty cents each per week.

For the entire past year the old contract with the State has been in force ; and under it the average number so provided for has been one hundred and twenty-two and 27-100 ; while our accommodations would have allowed us to take care of two hundred—the maximum number—one hundred and fifty State boys provided for under the contract, and about fifty City boys.

The maximum number of State boys was not reached until about November first, when we had in the Institution, with our own City boys, one hundred and seventy-one.

For the entire year 1877 the Institution has been under the charge of Dr. J. M. Waddick, who took possession January 1st; and to him and his wife, Mrs. B. S. Waddick, as Superintendent and Matron, are we indebted for the enviable reputation the Institution has gained throughout the State, whereby it has filled up to its maximum.

Dr. Waddick did not enter upon his duties a novice, though he had not had any experience as Superintendent.

His connection with the Board, as one of its members, from May, 1871, to January, 1877, and his service as Physician of the Institution, from its opening in May, 1875, together with that earnest interest he takes in matters of duty devolved upon him, eminently qualified him for the position.

Believing this, the Board, in their Report to your Honorable Body, for the year ending December 31st, 1876, published after his appointment, said:

“It is but proper to say, in this connection, that during his long term of service as a Director, Dr. Waddick was an active and efficient member of the Board, and became thoroughly conversant with the management of the Institution, and deeply interested in all matters pertaining to the promotion of its best interests; and we feel confident that he will prove successful in the new position to which he has been chosen.”

We can not do Dr. Waddick the justice due him so well as by according the Board the credit of the best judgment in his appointment, based as their action was upon long acquaintance and intimate association with him; and they certainly anticipated less good from his service than the Institution has enjoyed.

While much credit is due to Mrs. Waddick, as Matron, we can not better express it than by quoting the words used by a special committee, in their report in February last, as to her particular fitness for the position.

“That part of the Institution under the care of Mrs. Waddick, the Matron, is admirably and efficiently administered.”

We believe the relation existing between the inmates and the Superintendent and Matron, as well as the excellent corps of officers and teachers under them, is such as scarcely ever is found in institutions of this kind.

The inmates are not willingly committed ; hence, when first entering, are prejudiced against those apparently depriving them of their liberty, as neither walls, bars, or fences exist to prevent their leaving.

That they are kindly and considerately treated and well provided for, can not be better proved than by stating that, since June last, only *two boys* have left the Institution without an honorable discharge.

We have lately revised the rules for the government of the Institution, and the officers and employes in charge, and herewith submit the same for your approval.

During the past year the Superintendent has secured assistants particularly adapted to their various positions, including a teacher, Mrs. A. M. Coggswell, whose long experience and special fitness afford our wards every advantage to be secured in our best common schools.

While during the past year much has been accomplished in providing the premises with conveniences, and in giving the surroundings a home-like appearance, as well as bettering its sanitary condition, much remains to be done ; and the Board hopes to do much more during the present season, which it is enabled to do, with means at its control, for which we are indebted to the efficient and practical financial management of the Superintendent.

Though the price allowed by the State since February 1st, 1877, is one dollar less per week for each boy committed from outside of our City than under the old contract, we believe from our past year's experience, we shall maintain the State boys without loss to the City.

The almost entire freedom from escapes since the reorganization of the corps of assistants in June last, together with the number of discharges of boys entitled to same, furnish the best evidence of kindness of discipline and considerate care shown them, as well as the reformatory influences under which they are brought.

Respectfully submitted.

A. G. CLARK,

President.

N. A. MARSH,

Secretary.

Superintendent's Report.

TOLEDO, *January 2d*, 1878.

To the Board of Directors of the Toledo House of Refuge and Correction :

GENTLEMEN :—In compliance with Article six of the Rules of the Institution, defining the duties of Superintendent, I hereby submit the following Report for the year 1877 :

In rendering you the Third Annual Report of this Reformatory, it affords me great satisfaction to be able to say that the last year has passed without a single death in the Institution, an experience I hope the boys intrusted to your care may long enjoy.

This experience affords me the more satisfaction, as I have had the responsibility of Physician, as well as Superintendent. I regret being compelled to report so large a number of escapes from the Institution during the year. It is, however, but the natural result of changes in the superintendency of such institutions. Attachments must necessarily be formed between the Superintendent and inmates, an abrupt severance of which is, in all cases, followed by a partial disorganization and consequent demoralization of inmates and employes.

I had this difficulty to contend with, and consequently the escapes.

Since the organization of the present corps of assistants I have not had a single escape, and only two or three ineffectual attempts.

It may appear strange to you that the number of discharges during the past year have been so small—only twenty four, with an average attendance in the Institution of 122.27—while the number of discharges in previous years were so large, in comparison to the average number in the House. But it can readily be accounted for, when it is known that during the last year the Board established a system of grades by badges, or definite rank for meritorious conduct, under which discharges were generally made, as boys advanced by good conduct, correct deportment, and established reformation.

READING ROOM.

During the past summer two large, well-ventilated rooms were provided with the necessary furniture, and are now used as Reading Rooms for the accommodation of the boys. Such boys as pass the day without a blemish on their record, are permitted to spend the evening in these rooms; it being considered by the boys as a great favor to be permitted to enjoy this privilege.

Through the courtesy of the Board of Directors of our Public Library, and the generosity of some of our public-spirited citizens, the boys are quite well supplied with excellent reading matter.

There is, perhaps, no subject that has caused me more anxiety, during the past year, than that of furnishing employment for the boys, as it is a matter of absolute necessity to keep them actively employed in some useful manner, to make the Institution a reformatory in the fullest sense of the word. During the past year a large number of the boys have been engaged in drawing brushes for one of our manufacturing concerns in the City. This, with the employment in agriculture, and grading the grounds around the buildings, has furnished work for all the larger boys; while an excellently conducted school has furnished abundant means of constant employment for the younger class. All boys, large or small, attend school at least one-half of each day, and those not engaged in some form of labor, all day.

FARM PRODUCTS AND FRUIT.

The past spring was wet, and then the summer unusually dry in this section of country; and, consequently, our garden products were not so large as I had hoped for. The orchard, which previous years yielded an excellent crop of good fruit, proved to be almost an entire failure this season.

In connection with this Report, I desire to say that the present corps of assistants deserve your commendation for the faithful manner in which they have performed their various duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. M. WADDICK,

Superintendent Toledo House of Refuge and Correction,